

THREE GREAT PROMISES

John 14:1-21 NIV

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go & prepare a place for you, I will come back & take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way & the truth & the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him & have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father & that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, & that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father & the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, & they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, & I will do it.

¹⁵ “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, & he will give you another advocate to help you & be with you forever—¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you & will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, & you are in me, & I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands & keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, & I too will love them & show myself to them.”

Introduction:

1. **Context:** Setting is the last night of Jesus' life.
2. Jesus is comforting His disciples before His crucifixion, His followers will soon be afraid, confused, & traumatized by His impending death.
3. Jesus offers hope, preparing His disciples for the challenges ahead.
4. Jesus’ message is meant to provide comfort beyond times of grief, urging trust in Him & God to alleviate anxiety & fear.

5. Jesus stresses the importance of faith in Him, bringing peace amid turmoil.
6. Jesus assures His return & eternal life, presenting three great promises.

I. I Will Come for You (John 14:3)

1. Jesus speaks of the Promise of Heaven, with His Father's house having many rooms, emphasizing His preparation of a place for believers.
2. Jesus promises to come back & take us to be with Him.
3. The city prepared by Jesus will surpass earthly beauty, free from the scars of sin.
4. Various biblical descriptions offer glimpses of Heaven's glory.
5. Like in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, believers are on a journey to a Heavenly City.
6. The many rooms indicate Jesus' personal care for each believer's eternal future.
7. When everything is ready, Jesus will return for His followers.
8. Heaven will lack all the sufferings experienced since the fall.
9. The ultimate goal is eternal presence with Jesus.
10. Faith is foundational & brings confidence during uncertainty.

II. I Will Answer Your Prayer (John 14:13-14)

1. Jesus assures that help is available beyond the promise of heaven.
2. Disciples had great faith & made sacrifices to follow Jesus.
3. Jesus promises that help will be available through prayer.
4. Praying in Jesus' name aligns requests with His character & will, bringing glory to the Father.
5. The promise of answered prayers is not a blank cheque for selfish desires but to align with God's will, His power & love, aligning with His kingdom purposes.
6. Believers are encouraged to pray boldly, trusting in Jesus' wisdom & love.
7. Believers, empowered by the Holy Spirit, will do greater works reflecting the church's global impact.

III. I Will Be With You (John 14:16-18)

1. Jesus prepares His disciples for His departure by promising the Holy Spirit.
2. The Holy Spirit will be the Advocate, Helper, & Comforter for believers.
3. Jesus assures His presence within believers through the Holy Spirit.
4. Jesus reassures that believers will not be abandoned & left as orphans.
5. The Holy Spirit's presence enables believers to face life with confidence & joy.
6. Jesus describes a unified relationship between Himself, the Father, & believers.
7. Obedience & keeping Jesus' commands is a sign of love & relationship with Him.
8. Holy Spirit's presence is permanent, providing ongoing guidance & empowerment.
9. Believers' unity with Jesus & the Father is a source of strength & life.

Application:

1. Trusting in Jesus' promise of a prepared place in heaven allows us to live with assurance, filling believers with hope & confidence.
2. Faith in Jesus helps navigate life's challenges without being overwhelmed.

3. Live in anticipation of Jesus' return & the promise of eternal life.
4. Expect great things through prayer, believe in Jesus' power & willingness to respond.
5. Prayers should honour God & align with His kingdom purposes, reflecting our relationship with Jesus.
6. Show love for Jesus by living according to His teachings & seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance.
7. Trust in Jesus' continued presence through the Holy Spirit always.
8. Live out the reality of your union with Jesus, striving to know Him more intimately through love & obedience.

Conclusion:

1. Jesus provides a vision of a prepared place in heaven & assures our future home with God.
2. The promise of Jesus' return is central to the Christian faith – a core hope.
3. Jesus points the way to Heaven, secured through Him.
4. Those who look to Jesus as Savior have the promise of this heavenly home.